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### **Guideline Objective**

This guideline aims to ensure that systems are in place to prevent and control infection and communicable disease by underpinning national policies. It outlines the criteria, responsibilities and systems required to manage specific conditions/ infections. The goal of this guideline is to protect patients, staff and the public by effective prevention and control of infection and communicable disease.


***Compliance with this guideline is best practice. If you have any concerns please discuss with your line manager who will consult the local Infection Control/Health Protection Team for advice***

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## SECTION I

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

It is not always possible to identify people who are infectious from those who are not. Therefore, to ensure the safety of those being cared for, staff and visitors in the care environment must apply Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs). SICPs are intended for use by **all** staff, in **all** care settings, at **all** times, for **all** individuals whether infection is known to be present, or not. This guideline should be read in conjunction with the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual Chapter 1: Standard Infection Control Precautions as contained within NHSL'S Control of Infection Manual accessible through FirstPort via:

<http://firstport2/staff-support/healthcare-associated-infection/Control%20of%20Infection%20Manual/Chapter%201Version%202.1.pdf>

This guideline provides **additional** actions necessary for the safe use of medical devices and appropriate use of decontamination processes in NHS Lanarkshire to minimise the risk of healthcare associated infection. Medical devices can pose significant hazards to patients if they are reprocessed inadequately or incorrectly. Additionally risks can arise from equipment that should not be reprocessed, i.e. single-use items.

## 2. THE USE OF SINGLE-USE AND SINGLE-PATIENT USE EQUIPMENT


Prior to use packaging must be checked for single-use markings and decontamination instructions (see **Appendix 1**).

Items marked "Single-Use" must be used once, on one patient, and discarded as clinical waste.

Items marked "Single-Patient-Use" may be decontaminated and only reused on the same patient provided the manufacturer's instructions on decontamination and reuse are followed.


## 3. PRINCIPLES OF CLEANING, DISINFECTION AND STERILISATION

The decontamination method selected should be based on the risk of the item acting as a source or vehicle of infection and the optimum process that the item will tolerate.

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## PRINCIPLES OF CLEANING, DISINFECTION AND STERILISATION

PROCESS	DEFINITION	METHOD	WHEN
<b>CLEANING</b>	Physically removes contaminants including dust, soil, large numbers of micro-organisms and the organic matter that protects them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warm water on a damp cloth using a measured dose of general purpose detergent solution in warm water or use detergent wipe</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The environment or equipment not in close contact with mucous membranes or sterile body areas.</li> <li>• Prior to disinfection or sterilisation.</li> </ul>
<b>DISINFECTION</b>	Reduces the number of micro-organisms to a safe (or relatively) safe level. Bacterial spores are <b>not</b> usually destroyed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chemical agents e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ disinfectants</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Physical methods <b>[not all medical equipment refer to Manufacturers user manual]</b> e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ boiling</li> <li>○ low temperature steam</li> <li>○ pasteurisation.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heat labile items in close contact with mucous membranes.</li> <li>• Items contaminated with pathogenic microbes e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ body fluid spillages</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>STERILISATION</b>	A process which if specified conditions are met, renders a device sterile, i.e. from all micro-organisms and spores (BS EN 556-2 2003)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Autoclave <b>[not all medical equipment refer to Manufacturers user manual]</b></li> <li>• Hot air oven</li> <li>• Ionizing radiation</li> <li>• Low temperature steam &amp; formaldehyde</li> <li>• Ethylene oxide</li> <li>• Filtration</li> <li>• Chemical agents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Items in contact with broken skin/mucous membranes</li> <li>• Items which enter a sterile body area.</li> </ul>

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#### 4. GENERAL RULES

<b>CLEANING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• carry out cleaning in a designated “dirty” area where possible</li> <li>• wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) e.g., gloves, plastic apron and eye protection - even if an ultrasonic bath is used</li> <li>• use freshly prepared detergent, diluted as per manufacturer’s instructions</li> <li>• never pre-dilute detergents and store them</li> <li>• after cleaning, rinse items thoroughly with water (wipe electromedical equipment – <b>do not immerse</b>)</li> <li>• dispose of cleaning solution via sluice hopper or equipment sink - <b>not</b> in clinical wash hand basin.</li> </ul>
<b>DISINFECTION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• use scrupulously clean containers only</li> <li>• ensure thorough pre-cleaning of items prior to disinfection</li> <li>• never use chemical disinfection when sterilisation is required or when cleaning alone is adequate</li> <li>• ensure correct measured dilution</li> <li>• never pre-dilute disinfectants and store them</li> <li>• ensure items are immersed in disinfectant, the fluid entirely covering articles and penetrating into all crevices, including the insides of tubes</li> <li>• ensure the recommended exposure time is adhered to - no chemical agent acts immediately</li> <li>• never store items in a chemical disinfectant</li> <li>• after disinfection, rinse items thoroughly with water (wipe electro medical equipment – <b>do not immerse</b>).</li> <li>• adhere to manufacturers’ advice regarding shelf life of disinfectants.</li> </ul>
<b>STERILISATION</b>	<p><b>The use of a central sterile services department is recommended</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• items must be physically clean before being exposed to any sterilisation process</li> </ul>

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## 5. REUSABLE MEDICAL DEVICES


A medical device is any piece of equipment that is used on a patient. It includes all equipment, e.g. stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs as well as surgical instruments. Different medical devices require different levels of decontamination

The level of decontamination depends on:

- where the device has been used
- the type and amount of contamination
- the complexity of the device

### RISK CATEGORISATION FOR THE DECONTAMINATION OF MEDICAL DEVICES

Risk Category	Description	Recommendation
<b>HIGH</b>	Items in close contact with a break in the skin or mucous membrane or introduced into a sterile body area.	Sterilisation - decontamination to be undertaken in a specialist facility, e.g. Sterile Services Dept. <b>[refer to Manufacturers user manual]</b>
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>	Items in contact with intact skin, particularly after use on infected patients or prior to use on immuno-compromised patients, or items in contact with mucous membranes or body fluids.	Sterilisation or disinfection required. Decontamination to be undertaken in a specialist facility, e.g. Sterile Services Dept or an area approved in conjunction with the Infection Control Team
<b>LOW</b>	Items in contact with healthy skin or not in contact with patient.	Decontamination – may be undertaken in the clinical area.

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### **Correct disassembly and reassembly of surgical instruments**

It is important that the correct procedures are followed for disassembling and reassembling equipment during decontamination. Do not disassemble or reassemble any equipment unless you have been instructed or trained to do so. This training or instruction should be recorded.

### **Training**

Managers must ensure that all healthcare workers are appropriately trained and have access to detailed instruction illustrating the correct procedure taking into account the manufacturer's instructions.

## **6. DISINFECTANTS**

Disinfectants are subject to the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations (2002 as amended).

To comply with COSHH, all disinfectants must be kept in locked cupboards. Instructions for use must be displayed close to the cupboard. When using disinfectants the approved procedure must be followed to ensure that the disinfectant is effective and does not cause harm to patients, staff, visitors, equipment or the environment.

### **Personal protective equipment**

Protective clothing should be worn in accordance the COSHH assessment for the disinfection process to be used and with the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual Chapter 1: Standard Infection Control Precautions (**pages 11-13**) as contained within NHSL's Control of Infection Manual accessible via through FirstPort via:


<http://firstport2/staff-support/healthcare-associated-infection/Control%20of%20Infection%20Manual/Chapter%201Version%202.1.pdf>

### **Hazard warning – urine spillages**

**NB** Acidic solutions such as urine may react with the chlorine releasing agents and cause the release of chlorine vapour. Chlorine releasing agents should therefore not be used directly on urine spills. The procedure for managing blood and body fluid spillages is provided in **Appendix 11** of the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual Chapter 1: Standard Infection Control Precautions as contained within NHSL'S Control of Infection Manual accessible via through FirstPort via:

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### Spillages on carpets

Carpets are **not** recommended for clinical areas. Carpets in healthcare premises should be able to withstand decontamination with 10,000 parts per million available chlorine. If there are areas that do not meet this standard discolouration will likely occur during decontamination. Contact a member of the Infection Control Team for further advice and if large volume body fluid spillages occur on carpets.

#### **NB: Spillages within community healthcare settings**

Healthcare workers cannot use disinfectants to deal with blood and body fluid spillages occurring in the patient's own home because of the possibility of damage. Contact a member of the Infection Control Team for further advice.

### **7. NEW EQUIPMENT PURCHASE FOR NHS, RESEARCH, TRIAL OR LOAN**

In line with MDS DB 9801 Guidance on the sale, transfer of ownership and disposal of used medical devices for hospitals and community-based organisations, the person who intends to purchase, use or loan the equipment must first seek the advice of a member of the Infection Control Team prior to purchase, or loan of any equipment which requires, and is authorised by the manufacturer for, decontamination between patients. The NHSL Business Case Form is provided in **Appendix 9** of the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual Chapter 1: Standard Infection Control Precautions as contained within NHSL'S Control of Infection Manual accessible via through FirstPort via: <http://firstport2/staff-support/healthcare-associated-infection/Control%20of%20Infection%20Manual/Chapter%201Version%202.1.pdf>

### **8. BENCHTOP STERILISERS/AUTOCLAVES**


Bench top sterilisers/autoclaves should only be used to decontaminate instruments if sending them to a central sterile service department is **not** a viable option **and only** after discussion with the Infection Control Team.

#### **Performance monitoring**

To ensure performance, equipment must be maintained and tested as per Health Technical Memorandum (HTM) 2010. Each steriliser/autoclave must have a log book in which the results of routine monitoring, examinations, tests, faults, repairs etc., are recorded. Indicator test strips only demonstrate that a load has been through a steriliser/autoclave, and cannot be relied on to assess accurately whether sterilisation has been achieved.

**FAILURE TO CARRY OUT PERIODIC TESTS AND MAINTENANCE COULD COMPROMISE SAFETY AND MAY HAVE LEGAL AND INSURANCE IMPLICATIONS.**

**N.B: Anyone operating bench top sterilisers/autoclaves must contact their Estates Department for detailed guidance.**

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## 9. DECONTAMINATION OF HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT PRIOR TO INSPECTION, SERVICE OR REPAIR

Equipment which has been contaminated by contact with blood, other body fluids or pathological specimens require decontamination prior to examination by third parties. Third parties include staff of hospital engineering and medical physics departments, manufacturers' employees and others who perform inspection and service of equipment. Equipment which is visibly soiled must **never** be presented or sent to third parties for inspection, maintenance or repair. Guidance on methods of decontamination is provided in **Appendix 2** of this guidance. For items not covered, advice must be obtained from the Infection Control Team. **An Inspection, Servicing or Repair of Medical and Laboratory Equipment Clearance Certification Form 1 must be completed and accompany equipment, otherwise repairs may be delayed.** When completing the form tick one box only, i.e., A, B or C, fill in the appropriate decontamination details and sign the form. The form is provided in **Appendix 8** of the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual Chapter 1: Standard Infection Control Precautions as contained within NHSL'S Control of Infection Manual accessible via through FirstPort via: <http://firstport2/staff-support/healthcare-associated-infection/Control%20of%20Infection%20Manual/Chapter%201Version%202.1.pdf>

Items of equipment which cannot be decontaminated without dismantling by an engineer must be surface cleaned to remove visible soiling and labelled Danger of Infection before being sent for inspection, maintenance or repair. In these circumstances Box C should be ticked on the form.


### Equipment leaving the premises

If equipment is to leave the premises, an Inspection, Servicing or Repair of Medical and Laboratory Equipment Clearance Certification Form 1 must be enclosed in an envelope affixed to the outside of the package. *The envelope must be marked "Examine enclosed documents before unpacking"*

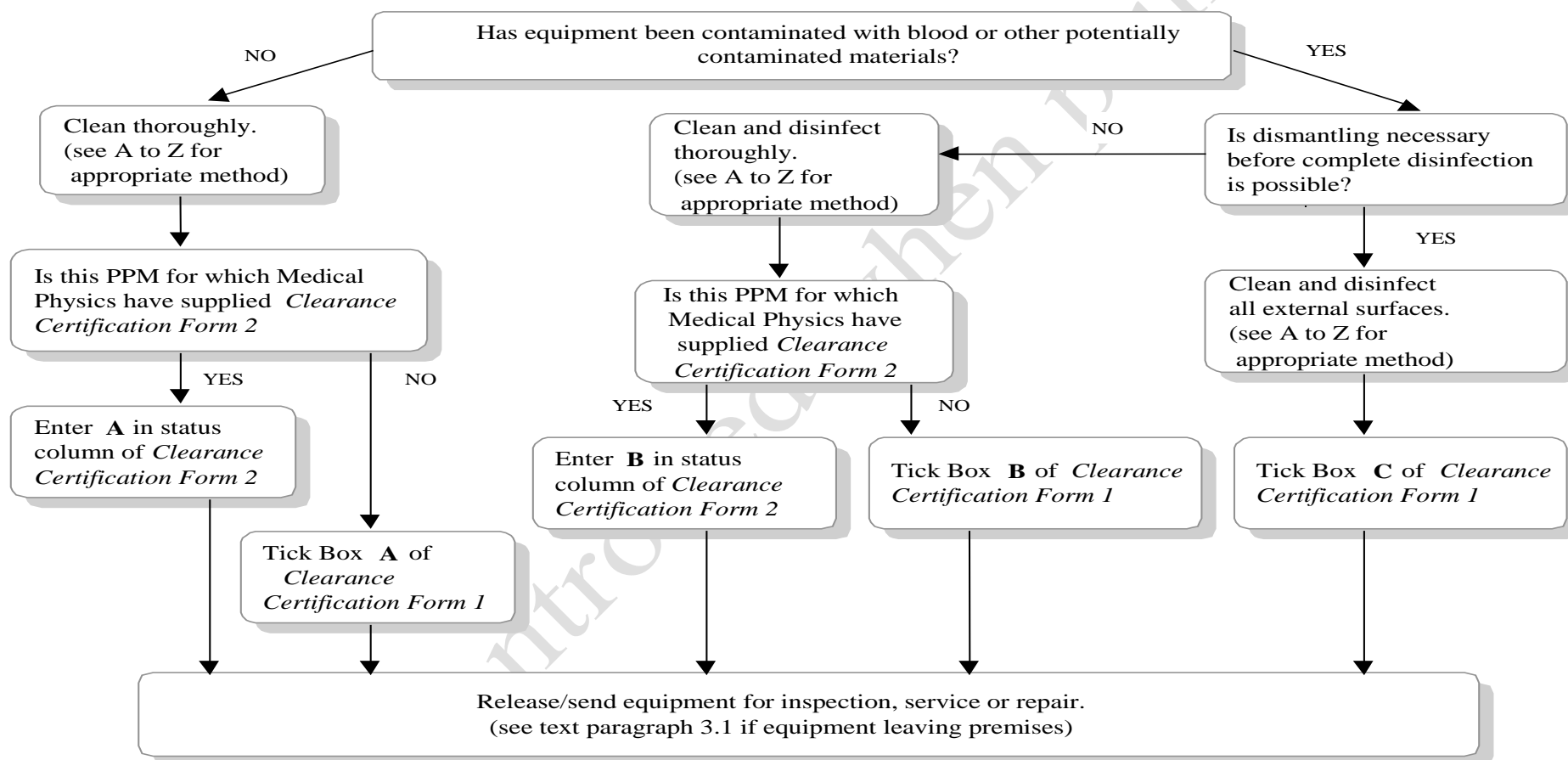
### Planned preventative maintenance of on-site equipment


Where planned preventative maintenance (PPM) is being carried out on site, it is considered unnecessarily onerous to complete an individual form for each item. In these circumstances, where lists of equipment scheduled for maintenance are sent to clinical areas in advance, such lists should contain a section where the clearance status of each item of equipment can be documented. Clearance Certification Form 2 may be used for clearance category A or B items only. Form 2 is provided in **Appendix 8** of the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual Chapter 1: Standard Infection Control Precautions as contained within NHSL'S Control of Infection Manual. For clearance category C items an individual Form 1 must be completed.

**SEE FLOW CHART ON NEXT PAGE.**

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# **10. RISK CATEGORISATION OF CLINICAL PROCEDURE FOR ALL TYPES OF CREUTZFELT-JACOB DISEASE (CJD)**

In addition to the Classification of Risk, there are also technical requirements for decontamination for specific instruments in relation to CJD. Please refer to **SECTION W - The Management of Patients with Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (TSE)** including all forms of Creutzfeldt Jacob Disease (CJD) as contained within NHSL's Control of Infection Manual accessible via <http://firstport2/staff-support/healthcare-associated-infection/Control%20of%20Infection%20Manual/Sect%20W.pdf>

**Please contact a member of the Infection Control Team for further advice.**

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## SYMBOLS USED ON MEDICAL PACKAGING & THEIR MEANINGS

### Appendix 1

These symbols are the most common ones appearing on medical devices and their packaging. They are explained in more detail in the British and European Standard BS EN 980: 1997 Graphical symbols for use in the labelling of medical devices. Symbols appearing on medical devices and/or their packaging must be adhered to. If a user does not understand a symbol, they should first look in the instructions for use or user manual explanation

<b>BATCH CODE</b>  <div>LOT     ABC 1234</div> Synonyms for this are: • Lot number • Batch number	<b>DATE OF MANUFACTURE</b>   1999-12	<b>DO NOT REUSE</b>   Synonyms for this are: • Single-use • Use only once
<b>USE BY DATE</b>   2002-06-30	<b>SERIAL NUMBER</b> SN ABC123  <b>CATALOGUE NUMBER</b> REF ABC123	<b>ATTENTION, SEE INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE</b>  
<b>STERILE</b>  <div>STERILE</div> <div>STERILE   EO     Sterilized by Ethylene Oxide</div> <div>STERILE   R     Sterilized by Irradiation</div> <div>STERILE        Sterilized by Steam or Dry Heat</div>		  The CE mark indicates that the device complies with the essential requirements for the performance and safety of medical devices supplied or sold in the UK under UK and EU laws. Items sold as Sterile will have a number under the CE mark.




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CLEANING SCHEDULES FOR CLINICAL STAFF							
EQUIPMENT	FREQUENCY					PREFERRED METHODS	COMMENTS
ITEM	Between Patients	After Soiling	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or Other		
<b>Ambubag</b>	√					Disposable or central sterile supplies department	Non-disposable ambu bag contains a single use bacterial filter to be disposed after use.
<b>Anaesthetic Equipment</b>							
Difficult intubation trolley	√	√				The incubating laryngeal mask airway should be washed in detergent to remove soiling and reprocessed in central sterile supplies department.  Laryngoscope handles should be cleaned with detergent wipes – do not immerse.	It is advisable that laryngoscope blades are disposable, handles should also be disposable or reprocessed in central sterile supplies department
Intubation laryngeal mask	√	√					
Laryngoscope blade	√	√		√			
Laryngoscope handle	√	√					
Suction filter (wall/portable)	√	√					
<b>Auroscope – Ear pieces</b>	√					Clean with warm water and detergent or detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly or use disposable.	
<b>Baby Equipment</b>							
baby baths	√	√		√		Use warm water & detergent or detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly.	Breast pump pack (disposable) Water and detergent not to be used on electrical equipment.
electric breast pump							
kanmed baby warmer unit and plastic mattress							
<b>Baby Incubators</b>	√	√		√		Clean with detergent wipes and dry thoroughly. If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine releasing agent.	Include in weekly ward cleaning schedule.



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ITEM	Between Patients	After Soiling	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or Other		
<b>Basins: plastic</b>	√		√			Clean with warm water and detergent or use disposable wipes. Dry thoroughly.	Store inverted when not in use
<b>Baths/showers</b> Shower chairs	√	√	√			Clean with warm water and detergent. Dry thoroughly.	
<b>Beds &amp; accessories-</b> cot sides/cradles/frames mattresses Beds (Specialist)	√  √	√  √		√	√	Damp dust weekly and clean with warm water and detergent or use disposable wipes between patients. Dry thoroughly.  Beds as per manufacturer's instructions	Do not store items on the floor. Do not use alcohol wipes on mattresses.
<b>Bedside lockers</b>	√	√	√	√		Wash tops with detergent wipes daily. Wash inside with detergent wipes weekly	
<b>Bed tables</b>	√	√		√		Clean with warm water and detergent or detergent wipes.	

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<b>Bed Pan Holders</b>	√	√		√		Clean with warm water and detergent or use disposable wipes. Dry thoroughly. If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine releasing agent.	Cleaning should be carried out in dirty sink in the sluice.
<b>Bed pan</b> Macerator/Destructor				√		Clean the outside with warm water and detergent. Dry thoroughly.	
<b>Bedpan</b> Storage Rack				√		Clean with warm water and detergent or use disposable wipes. Dry thoroughly.	
<b>Bins</b> (Clinical Waste)		√		√		Clean with warm water and detergent or use disposable wipes. Dry thoroughly.	Include in weekly ward cleaning schedule. If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine releasing agent.
<b>Blood Pressure Cuffs</b>	√					Clean with detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly. [refer to Manufacturers user manual]	Use disposable for <i>Clostridium difficile</i> positive patients

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EQUIPMENT	FREQUENCY					PREFERRED METHODS	COMMENTS
ITEM	Between Patients	After Soiling	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or Other		
<b>Chairs</b>	√	√		√		Clean with warm water and detergent or detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly. If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine releasing agent.	Fabric chairs are unsuitable for clinical areas. Include in weekly ward cleaning schedule.
<b>Commodes</b>	√	√		√		Clean with warm water and detergent or detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly. If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine releasing agent.	Inspect undercarriage, handles etc
<b>Denture Mugs</b>	√		√			If non-disposable wash with warm water and detergent. Dry thoroughly.	Disposable preferred.
<b>Drip/Stands etc</b>	√	√		√		Clean with warm water and detergent or detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly.	Include in weekly ward cleaning schedule. If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine releasing agent.
<b>Duvets</b>	√	√				Water impermeable cover. Clean with warm water and detergent. Dry thoroughly.	
<b>Earphones</b>	√			√		Clean with warm water and detergent or detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly.	Include in weekly ward cleaning schedule.

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<b>ECG Leads</b>	√					Clean with detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly. [refer to Manufacturers user manual]	
<b>Electric Fans</b>	√			√		If all areas of the equipment are accessible clean with detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly. If unable to do so cleaning should be carried out by Estates Department on request.	Include in weekly ward cleaning schedule. Complete a decontamination certificate before sending equipment to Estates Department.
<b>Endoscopes</b> arthroscopes bronchoscopes colonoscope cystoscopes gasrtoscopes laparoscopes etc	√					Manually cleaned to remove soil and then reprocessed in an automated endoscope washer.	Follow local guidance on the decontamination of endoscopes
<b>Finger Probes</b> for O2 Saturation Monitors	√	√				Clean with detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly. [refer to Manufacturers user manual]	Disposable preferred.

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<b>EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>					<b>PREFERRED METHODS</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>ITEM</b>	<b>Between Patients</b>	<b>After Soiling</b>	<b>Daily</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>Monthly or Other</b>		
<b>Flower Vases</b>			√			Renew water daily. Clean with warm water and detergent or clean in dishwasher. Dry thoroughly.	Store dry and inverted. Not to be used in specialist units e.g. Burns Unit, ITU, and SCBU etc.
<b>Glucometers</b>	√	√				Clean with detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly. If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine releasing agent.	Refer to manufacturer's instructions.
<b>Ice bucket for Swann Ganz Catheters</b>	√			√		Clean with warm water and detergent. Dry thoroughly.	Renew ice daily.
<b>Ice Cube Making Machine</b>				√		Follow manufacturer's instructions.	Ice to be used for clinical purposes only. Include in weekly ward cleaning schedule.
<b>Infusion/EF Pumps</b>	√	√		√		Clean with detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly.	Refer to manufacturer's instructions.
<b>Keyboards</b>		√	√			Clean with detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly.	If unable to decontaminate item appropriately contact the Infection Control Team.
<b>Lead Aprons</b>	√	√		√		Clean with detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly. If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine releasing agent.	This is the responsibility of the user. Include in weekly cleaning schedule.

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<b>Manual Handling Equipment</b> Ambulift/Hoist Hoist slings	√ √	√ √		√		Clean with warm water and detergent. Dry thoroughly. Send to Laundry or use disposable.	Include in the weekly cleaning schedule and include underside, feet etc. Ensure single patient use.
<b>Measuring Jugs (blood/body fluids)</b>						Disposable jugs recommended	
<b>Medicine Cups</b>						Dispose of after use	
<b>Nebuliser chamber &amp; compressor unit</b>	√	√				Use detergent wipe for compressor. The chamber is disposable.	
<b>Occupational Therapy equipment</b>	√	√				Wash with warm water & neutral detergent or detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly.	Refer to manufacturers' guidance. If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine-releasing agent.
<b>Peak flow meter</b>	√	√				Disposable mouthpieces	Where possible allocate machine to patient. Meter should be cleaned with detergent wipes if not single use

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<b>Physiotherapy equipment</b> Wax baths	√ √	√			√	Wash with warm water & neutral detergent or detergent wipes. Dry thoroughly Refer to local guidance for wax	Refer to manufacturers' guidance & use disposable paper on benches for each patient. Use only on patients with intact skin & without skin conditions.
<b>Pillows</b>	√	√				Should have water impermeable cover. Wash with warm water & neutral detergent or detergent wipe. Dry thoroughly	
<b>Podiatry</b> foot baths & foot rests.	√	√				Clean with warm water & neutral detergent.	If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine-releasing agent.
<b>Refrigerators:-</b> Drug Domestic Specimen		spillage		√		Clean with warm water & neutral detergent or detergent wipe. Dry thoroughly.	See ward cleaning schedule. Spillage in a specimen fridge should be cleaned using a chlorine-releasing agent.
<b>Scales</b>	√	√		√		Clean with warm water & neutral detergent or detergent wipe. Dry thoroughly.	See ward cleaning schedule.
<b>Shelving &amp; storage</b> (IV fluids, dressings, etc.)				√		Clean with warm water & neutral detergent or detergent wipe. Dry thoroughly.	See ward cleaning schedule.

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<b>ITEM</b>	<b>Between Patients</b>	<b>After Soiling</b>	<b>Daily</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>Monthly or Other</b>		
<b>Shower chairs</b>	√	√		√		Clean with warm water & neutral detergent or detergent wipe. Dry thoroughly.	If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine-releasing agent.
<b>Specula - vaginal</b>						Disposable recommended – single use	
<b>Sphygmomanometer</b> (criticon, etc)	√	√		√		Clean with detergent wipe	Check manufacturers' instructions.
<b>Stethoscope</b>	√	√				Clean with detergent wipe	Do not use alcohol as it will erode the rubber.
<b>Suction equipment</b> (wall mounted & portable)	√	√		√		Clean with warm water & neutral detergent or detergent wipe. Dry thoroughly.	Filter in a pipeline suction unit should be changed when they become discoloured or damp. The filters should also be changed after use with a patient with an Infectious Disease.
<b>Telephones</b>	If communal use	√	√			Use detergent wipe	If contaminated with blood or body fluids use chlorine-releasing agent.
<b>TENS machines</b>	√	√				Clean with detergent wipe.	Refer to manufacturer's instructions. Assign to individual patients.



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<b>Thermometer</b>	√	√				Clean with detergent wipe.	Refer to manufacturers instructions.
<b>Toilet seat raiser</b>	√	√				Clean with warm water & neutral detergent. If contaminated with blood or body fluids use chlorine-releasing agent.	Store off the floor
<b>Toys</b>	√	√				Clean with warm water & neutral detergent or detergent wipe. Dry thoroughly. If heavily soiled discard.	Toys used in communal areas must be hard plastic or similar and easily decontaminated. Soft toys should be patients own. For specific detailed guidance please contact the Infection Control Nurse.
<b>Tonometer heads</b>						Disposable recommended	
<b>Trolleys:-</b> dressing treatment (i.e. Stryker) medicine	√	√ √		√		Use detergent wipe or warm water & neutral detergent. Dry thoroughly.	
<b>Ventilation</b> Home CPAP / BIPAP	√	√				Use detergent wipe on outer casing.	This guidance is for loan equipment only. Check manufacturer's guidance.

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<b>Walking aids</b>	√	√			√	Use detergent wipe or warm water & neutral detergent. Dry thoroughly.	If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine-releasing agent.
<b>Wheelchairs</b>	√	√			√	Use detergent wipe or warm water & neutral detergent. Dry thoroughly	If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine-releasing agent.
<b>Work surfaces</b> Clinical areas.	√	√		√		Use detergent wipe or warm water & neutral detergent. Dry thoroughly.	If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine-releasing agent.
<b>X-ray equipment</b> fixed & portable	√	√		√		Use detergent wipe or warm water & neutral detergent. Dry thoroughly. If contaminated with blood or body fluids use a chlorine-releasing agent.	Refer to manufacturer's instructions.